

CommunitySpirit
3162 N. Broadway, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60657-4509

FORWARD & ADDRESS CORRECTION

**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION ENCLOSED**

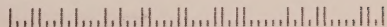
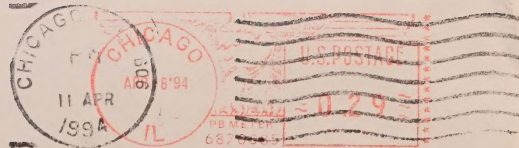
IMMEDIATE REPLY REQUESTED !

Cliff Morrison

Mcc - Birmingham

3001 4th Ave S

Birmingham, AL 35233-3026





MOISTEN HERE

COMMUNITYSPIRIT

IT'S A FAMILY THING

Make the switch today and we will issue a check for \$5 to the gay, lesbian, bi or HIV group you indicate as well as 2% of your monthly bill.



Finally, a long distance calling program designed especially to benefit our community. Our rates are up to 25% lower than AT&T, Sprint or MCI, and best of all, 2% of your charges are donated to the gay, lesbian, bi and HIV/AIDS groups of your choice. That's 2% of every call you make!

It's easy. We pay switching fees. With CommunitySpirit there are no special fees or monthly minimums, and you get a free calling card for making calls away from home.

It's simple dial-1 service from your home with clear calling around the world using the nation's only 100% digital fiber optic network.

And for a limited time, we will send a check for an extra \$5 to your favorite community group!

What are you waiting for...

UNLEASH THE power

first name _____

last name _____

street address _____ apt. _____

city _____

state _____ zip code _____

()

phone number _____

additional home phone number(s) to be switched _____

1-800-It's-Ours

1. FOLD CHECK UP -- 2. FOLD TOP DOWN -- DO NOT FORGET TO INCLUDE NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER ABOVE.

COMMUNITYSPIRIT

_____ 19 _____

* Pay to the order of _____

(PRINT NAME OF ORGANIZATION YOU WISH US TO SPONSOR ON YOUR BEHALF)

\$5.00

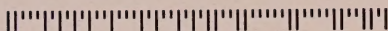
Five dollars and 00/100.

memo **UNLEASH THE POWER**

NON-NEGOTIABLE

I realize that my signature authorizes a switch of my current long distance carrier to the CommunitySpirit long distance program and that donations will be made to the groups I have selected above in accordance with the policies of the CommunitySpirit program.

* Paid after customer remains in program 3 months.



CommunitySpirit
3712 North Broadway
Chicago, Illinois 60613-9945



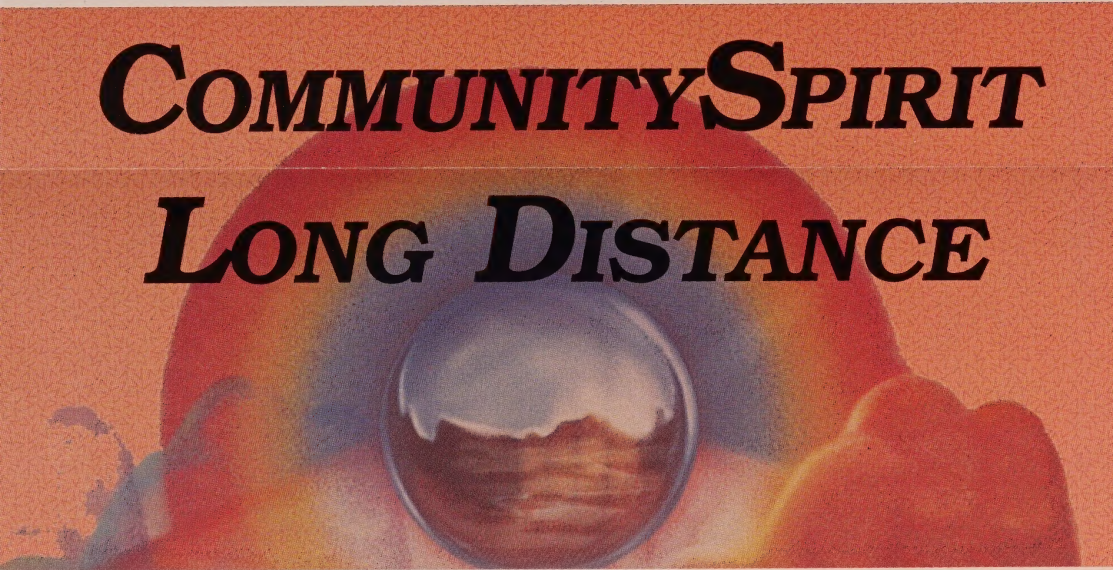
BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 90088 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES



COMMUNITYSPIRIT

LONG DISTANCE



Please help us spread the word about CommunitySpirit Telephone Long Distance.
Please send info to the following people...

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____

COMMUNITYSPIRIT LONG DISTANCE—It's A FAMILY THING—UNLEASH THE POWER!

April 7, 1994

Cliff Morrison
Mcc - Birmingham
3001 4th Ave S
Birmingham, AL 35233-3026

Cliff Morrison:

People really do appreciate your hard work, and the enclosed check from CommunitySpirit proves it! Since it's inception last year, CommunitySpirit has grown to be the nation's largest gay/lesbian owned and operated long distance company. Organizations like yours are responsible for a large part of CommunitySpirit's success. Every CommunitySpirit customer selects a not-for-profit organization such as yours to receive donations. CommunitySpirit donates 2% of each customer's annual long distance charges to lesbian, gay, bisexual, HIV/AIDS and transgenderous groups all across the country. This first check is only the very small tip of a great financial iceberg for you! For as long as the customers who targeted your group for donations stay with CommunitySpirit, you will continue to receive checks—it's an annuity that keeps on giving!

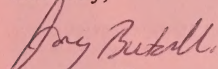
With our new Check is Out program we can raise even more funds for the important work you do. For a limited time, when an individual signs up for CommunitySpirit using the enclosed Check it Out form and designates your group as the recipient organization, your group will receive:

- ☒ **\$5 per new customer paid after the customer stays with us 3 months.**
- ☒ **2% of that customer's long distance charges with CommunitySpirit on an ongoing basis.**

You can distribute the promotional checks at meetings, send them out with newsletters, hold bar parties, set up tables at Pride—whatever works for you!

Your first annuity check proves that people care about the work you do. Let's get the others on board. They will save on their long distance charges and raise money for the work you do. How can they go wrong? If you have any questions regarding this program or require additional checks, please don't hesitate to call. Our initial print run was 450,000 and will be distributed on a first come basis. Call us today at 800-473-3405 to get the promotional checks you need.

Sincerely,


Joey Bartelli

Vice President, Overlooked Opinions; CommunitySpirit

P.S. If your first donation check was less than \$5, CommunitySpirit brought the amount to \$5 by allocating the difference from the CommunitySpirit Fund.

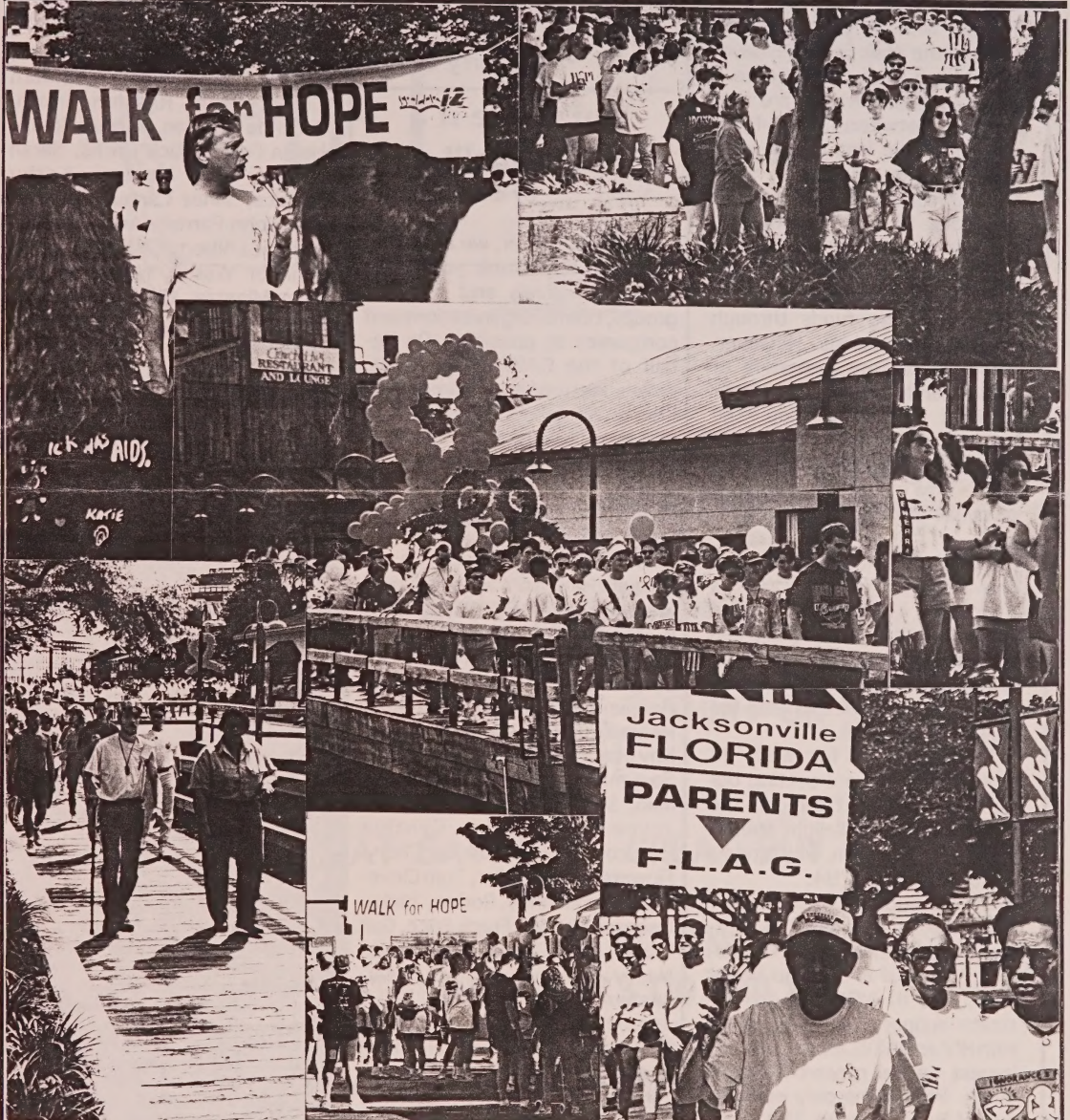
COALITION NEWS

Published by PWA COALITION of JACKSONVILLE, INC.

1628 San Marco Blvd., Suite 4 Jacksonville, FL 32207

Volume 3 Number 4

April 1994



Photographs by Russell Roberts

A Letter from the Executive Director...

Thank you! Thank You! One and all, without your help and support the Walk for HOPE never would have been the success it was. Our guesstimates are that we had between 3500-4000 walkers (triple last year's turnout!) and raised over \$110,000.00 in in-kind and cash donations (2.5 times what we did last year!). Those figures aren't final as we are still receiving money and expect to receive some matching funds through several corporations. However, those figures are indicative of the tremendous support the Walk received community-wide. The bottom line is that no matter how much money was raised, no matter how many people walked, we couldn't have done it without you!

Later in the month when the final accounting for the Walk is completed I will advise everybody about the beneficiary disbursement. Hopefully, all three beneficiaries will be pleased as Laura and I have tried to keep the Walk's costs down.

So as the Walk for HOPE '94 winds down, we are setting our sights on our next project: the 11th Annual Candlelight Memorial and Mobilization, which takes place on May 22, '94.

The Coalition was asked to be the project coordinator in Jacksonville for this event. The Candlelight Memorial is done to honor those lost to AIDS and demonstrate support for those living with HIV and AIDS. It is the world's largest annual grassroots AIDS event. We will be only one city out of an estimated 270 cities worldwide to participate. As of today we have not received the particulars on the event, so I

have no way of knowing what is planned. However, as soon as I do, we will swing into action and get the word out.

Again, our most heartfelt thanks to everybody for their help and support of the Walk for HOPE.

... Jerry Alford

You made it a Success !!

by dick niemann

As with last year, we are going to try to say thank you to as many individuals and families, groups, teams, organizations and companies as possible. On behalf of the CARE Team of St. Luke's Metropolitan Community Church, St. John's Horizon House and the PWA Coalition of Jacksonville thank you for your support for -- You make the Walk For HOPE.

Individuals and Families -

Chiquita Hampton, Jennifer Cook, Sharron Ezzard, Diane Bell, Linda R. Etchin, Pete Lamb, Austin Soden, Betsy Griffey, Jean Shepard, Monique N. Lewis, Natalie Jackson, Alina Garrison, Melissa Lupica, Danielle McGuire, Khy Has, Bunky Zim, Sok Ngyen, Soeum Nhim, Toeum Ly, Moeun Mao, Scott Hunt, Bia Wimsett, Joyce Dombroski, Cynthia Persico, Caroline Welkley, Cheryl Flowers, Bobbie Miller, Tom Cleveland, Kay Mohney, Rodney Hicks, Deborah Ganett, Frank Price, Gail Crews, Julie Crews, Andi Steve, Nancy O'Byrne, George Krner, Joslyn Dunbar, Randall Baer, Jessie Williams, Michael WisDewski, John Woodward, John and Sue Hicks, Wanda Barnes, Janet Canady, Cheryl Petersen, Don Strickland, Anglyn Sasser, David Kilpatrick, Susan Hough, Donna Hough, Patty Bottensek, (cont'd next column)

Thank You cont'd -

Christine Letko, Phil & Katherine Foremen, Mary Ann Rouse, Sharon Rouse, Doreen Perez, Charlene Dawston, Lenka L. Soltos, Leshell Hartney, Phoebe Rosseland, Jane Cartwright, Bill Ballinger, Charlie Kiely, Nancy Durnal, Rob Hendrix, Bryan Bartlett, Bonnie Powell, Charles Stewart, Lillian Chrestensen, Rasshm Smith, Amanda Truman, Joshua Smith, Helen Ferrell, Rick Griffis, Sarah Moore, Nina Lazzari, Kathy Korpics, Janet Carter, Rita Wilson, John Parrish, Ann Johnson, Veronica Albertie, Marsha Brandt, Jennifer Wilson, Natalie Bryan, Tom Minette, Clark S. Nichols, Barry Weldon, Kim DeMarre, Stephanie Sipp, Robbie Roberts, Emily Gibson, Amanda Meyer, Roy & Raletta Fowler, Wiston Sharffer, Jeffrey Evans, George Ray, C. Chapman, Randy McDavid, Linda Hill, Michelle

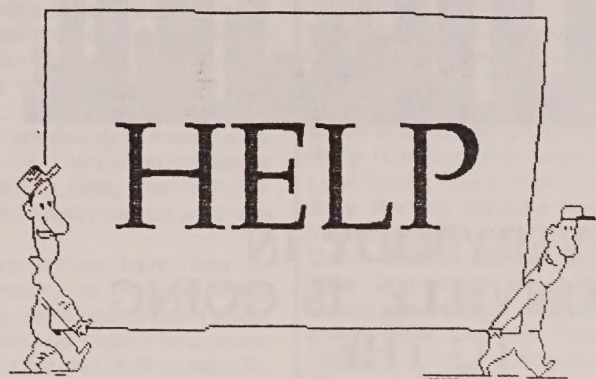
(Cont'd Page 3, Col 2)

Coalition News is a free publication of the **PWA Coalition of Jacksonville, Inc.** Our intent is to publish this newsletter monthly. Any letters, articles or news of interest should be sent to:

Coalition News Dept:
1628 San Marco Blvd. Suite 4
Jacksonville, FL 32207

Chair	Tom Burrell
Secretary	Arlene Shipley
Exe. Director	Jerry Alford
Dir. of Agency	Development
Dick Niemann	Treasurer
Fred Mich	Sec/Editor
Ernie Harvey	

Subscriptions to **Coalition News** are free for the asking. **PWA Coalition of Jacksonville, Inc.** is an IRS registered not-for-profit corporation. Donations and contributions are tax-deductible. **Coalition News** invites community involvement in the support of our efforts through low-priced advertisements. AIDS service organizations and health-care professionals are encouraged to send in ads. Ads must be black and white format and photo-ready. Discounts available for multiple runs and for HIV/PWA support groups. **Please contact us at 904-398-9292 or Fax 904-398-9517.**



THE PWA COALITION HAS AN OVER STOCK OF WALK
FOR HOPE T-SHIRTS AND COFFEE MUGS !!

WE NEED YOUR HELP !!

GET A WALK FOR HOPE T-SHIRT OR MUG
TODAY !!

GREAT SAVINGS - GREAT BUY

T-SHIRTS - \$5.00 ONLY
COFFEE MUGS - \$3.00 ONLY

CALL TODAY - 398-9292
OR COME BY OUR OFFICE AT -
1628 SAN MARCO BLVD, STE. 4



EVERYBODY IN
JACKSONVILLE IS GOING
TO THE

METRO

THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH
BECAUSE

IT'S STONE SOUP KITCHEN
NIGHT

BRING TWO OR THREE
CANNED OR DRY FOOD
ITEMS - OR MAKE A
DONATION TO

THE

PWA COALITION OF
JACKSONVILLE

Main Street News

To the Editor...

This is a difficult letter to write because it is to say good-bye to a great number of people whom I have come to know and care about, and to leave a field of work I am deeply committed to. March 24, 1994 is my last day at the Main St. Clinic. I am transferring into a new program area with HRS.

Never before, have I had the opportunity to meet so many heroes, or to feel so good about the work I do. I have the deepest respect for the staff at Main St. who continue in the awesome battle against HIV, and for the service providers who share that battle.

I have even greater regard for the untold numbers of people who meet every day with the knowledge and the uncertainty of living with this virus.

You have my continuing support & advocacy, and passionate hope that the near future offers an end.

... Sharon W. Stanton, HSP

POSITIVELY Aware

The quarterly journal that brings you life-saving information about HIV and AIDS.

Available from the PWA Coalition of Jacksonville, Inc.

Thank You cont'd -
Pendley, Joe Joseph, N. C. Cauthen, Maria Toth, Dorie Christine Campelli, E. Dianne Stallings, Vickie Williams, Bonnie Powell, Sharon A. Covert, David MacNamara, Mary Stokes, Valerie Forte, Joe Laurcey, Ken Shults, Vicki Wegrow, Mary Murphy, Susanne Morris, Terre Kestler, Susan Waltrip, David Gustafson, Harry Hamilton, Bob Eisemann, Lynn Svihra, Paul & Donna Irwin, Judy Horton, Danielle Harvie, Vonnie Carlett, Toni Herbert, Shirley Miner, Julia Rodeittet, Willie D. Davis, Doug & Mary Forbes, Lisa Gorospe, Ronda Deas, Baker Jennett, Chuck Messer, Stacy Smith, Stephanie Waugerman, Vincent Balanky, Judy Smith, Donna Reilly, Danielle Elliers, Chris Hentschel, Shayla Fowler, Griffen Fowler, Silla Aponte, Selma Tumpkin, Leslie Fowler, Michael Bell, Jennifer Olsen, Heather Regis, Marjorie Anderson, Bruce Houston, Pam Gornick, Oliva & Kevin Thomas, Marianne Herschman, Anita Pezza, Mandella Mobley, Colleen Ostrom, Laurie Allen, Cheryl Zibisky, Toy Hansen, T. Dean Hudson, Michael Zaleski, A. Frank, Marc Tamplin, Sharon Bubel, Don Privette, Puala McKenna, Carl & Arlene Shipley, Carolyn Jones, Lyle Carter, Julie Overstreet, Frank Workman, Leonard Saraga, Richard Bruce, Sally LeMaistre, Elizabeth Dawwa, Kristie Holley, Philip Taylor, Doug McAllister, Thomas Herbert, Lisa R. Herda, Sheryl C. Williams, Diane Tamplin, D. J. Johnson, Mathew Bronzek, Renee Bottoms, Bobbie Jo Eggleston, Karen Levin, Ethel Carter, Carol Strickland, Tim Murphy, Sue Moronese, Navada Johnson, Tara Derby, Catherine Eisenhauer, L. Bellinger, Sabrina Woofter, Toni Boren,

(Cont'd on Page 4 Col 1)

BUTTONS & BUMPER STICKERS AVAILABLE AT PWACJ

The PWA Coalition has a regular stock of the following buttons and bumper stickers at its office. Price \$1.00 each.

BUTTONS

- *Fight AIDS Not People With AIDS
- *Rainbow Triangle
- *Pink Triangle on Black
- *Fight Back
- *National Health Care NOW
- *ORGANIZE
- *Health Care is a Right Not a Privilege
- *Keep Hope Alive Rainbow
- *The Meek Are Getting Ready
- *Homophobia is a Social Disease
- *I Support Gay and Lesbian Rights
- *The Martin Niemoller Pink Triangle
- *How Many More?
- *Men Can Stop Rape
- *No One is Free When Others Are Oppressed
- *AIDS Research Not AIDS Bigotry
- *Women Unite Take Back the Night
- *Fight Racism
- *Rebel With A Cause!
- *Hatred Is Not A Family Value

BUMPER STICKERS

- *Rainbow - Postcard/Decal
- *Fight AIDS Not People With AIDS
- *Homophobia Is A Social Disease
- *Action=Life/Silence=Death
- *Floridians United Against Discrimination

Thank You Cont'd -

Miles T. Patterson, Carrie Balczon, Kathy Raulerson, Patricia Loughery, Leeann N. Parrish, Lisa Kemp, Donna Herrin, Stacy Smith, Tricia Hunt, Maxine Thomas, Tim Lyons, L. Gordon, Wendy Bybee, Melissa Swift, Jerry & Butch Dunn, Karren & Crystal Griffin, Andy Miller, Peggie Nadeau, Marilyn Lee, Greg Holton, Roger Glover, Z. Scott Russell, Chester Brooks, Chanda Griggs, Leo & Kathy Davis, Larry Walker, Shirley Moore, Jack Robbins, Carolyn & Erin Jones, Mario House, Catrilla Stringheld, Maeghan Fowler, Bob Logan, Martin Gonzalez, Michael & Wanda Fritton, Brooks & Marcus Weins, Richy White, Michael Stewart, Karen Osborne, Doug Degenhardt, Dan Heald, Sylvia Ferguson, Laurie Soloway, Bill Moore, Chuck Moore, George Pernok, Lisa Pinkerton, Anita Mattes, Marisa Stafford, Luis Verge, Ralph Puhlman, Genara Nelson, Kelle Lane, Rene Carter, Pete Paisley, Elaine Domenick, Jack Riggan, Pat Tomford, Connie Cain, John Perry, Frank Salomon & Family, Barbara Robertson, Leah Shahuh, George Atchley, Dennis Hamilton, Phillip & Robin Milano, Laurie Casaday, Vivian Quinn, Robert Clark, Rosemary Bossov, Walter Fitzpatrick, Sandy Valois, Ken Brooks, Linda Martin, Patricia Underwood, Carmen Blake, Aimee S. Baum, James Jackson & Family, Nancy F. Miavez, Lynn Cheney, L. M. Denton, Molley O'Donnell, Merry Henneberger, Sherryl Hunt, Beth Hunt, Katrina Hunt, Linda Kimble-Williams, Sandra Sambito, Dawnell Olson, Kitty Lapp, Dave Morrison, Carol Hashey, Quinton Halliburton, John & Ann Hatton, The Hatton Family Walkers, Ed Parsons, Ana DeLeon, Heather Edmonds, Catherine Chioto, Ivey

(Cont'd next column)

Thank You Cont'd -

Lynn Pascorella, Heidy David, Christina Duss, Margaret Arelbo, Connie Ryan, Joseph Pence, Jim Brazell, Scot Brannam, Brian Harrison, Ernie Bragg, Ric Goodman, Deborah Swain, Stuart Simon, Melanie Taylor, Tao Tong, Michelle Jarvis, Mike Akers, Daniel Laudry, Troy Klyber, Kim Karnes, Shanon Bleshey, Jennifer Cameron, Tara Mitchell, Damon Whitaker, James R. Bash, Bingle Brown, Bryan Gallo, Jeffrey Richardo, Rik Amador, Marion Lane, Peggy DiRollo, Dwayne Mickey, Ron Cline, Eric Wolf, Rodney Wing, Norma Bishop, Dennis Bohlke, Elethia, Allie Clark, Lisa Kanne, Davin Cilley, Scott Simpson, Mark Hargett, Robert Brown, Valeria Foutch, Denne Walters, Charlotte Ashford, Dori Abernathy, Kathy Hernandez, Scott Holden, Amanda Carlson, Lori Sinnett, Frankye White, Jennifer Russ, Sue Terrell, Susan Brown, Mary Jo Schuh, Amy M. Collier, Jerry Strickland, Denise P. Davis, Michelle Watkins, Lance R. Bonin, Mark Hill, Kandace Lankfer, Kathy Albin, Holley C. Enten, Brenda Clanton, Earl Farris, Richard Bordeaux, Michael Reardon, Luther Moxley, Wayne Curtis, Billee Anderson, Ron Seruga, Joe Steineck, Michele Larson, Carolyn Woods, Mary Condorodis, Bruce Gardner, Stephen Jones, Linda Clifton, Bowman Parker, John & Franklin, Harriet Brackey, Karla Brackey, Judith Quattlebaum, Donna Zimmerman, Cheryl Taylor, Nancy Breeze, Barbara Lieu, Herbert Roberts, Pamela Morris, Kay Holmes, Jim Jones, Rebecca Martin, Heather McTammary, Marvin Deaton, Dennis Tubbs, Richard Roberts, C. Kenet, Katherine Powell, Cheryl Wilcox, T. Riggs, Mona Mason, Peggy Norton, Peggy Webb, Chip Kirkpatrick,

(Cont'd next column)

Thank You Cont'd -

Lisa Almeida-Bender, Brooke Waters, Lavvine Waters, Mary Starling, Sylvia Abolofia, Cynthia Mans, Connie Jones, Nora L. Palmer, Brenda Waters, David O'Byrne, Sandra Keen, Rene Darsey, Susie Ross, Hope & Thomas Walsneer, Chris Wolsneer, Paul Sanchez, Don Goins, Roy Trotman, Priscilla Rouse, Holly Quillin, Sherrie Hamilton, Jon Harris, Ray Arnsdorf, James Brymer, Michael Graves, Graig Marone, E. Selorio, Carol Zekus, Janice Ghelerter, Joe & Judi Taylor, Stewart D. Miller, Janice Gentile, Mona & Jackie Davis, Beverly Rogers, Aaron Lester, Marcellus Sinclair, Mark Peterson, Joanne Baril, Jeremy Gart, Dan Kahle, Felicia McLean, Bob & Jane Mason, Scott Clift, Warren Clement, Paula Giallorenzo, Charity Tunts, Crystal Hargis, Valerie Proctor, Diane Bradshaw, David Jones, Jane Milton, Lou Howell, Irene Crocker, Phyllis Russell, Barry Whitely, John Phillips, Zel Thomas, Kathy McLaughlin, Romona Abraham, Dennis Urwin, Jose Bascon, Barabara & Bethany Murray, Teresa Ann White, Wanda Lanier, Garland & Sam Chick, Fritzgerald Waters, Stacy Pyles, Alice Hutcheson, Bruce Tyson, Cathy Chalmers, Daniel Knepp, Fred Hoener, Holly Hughes, Donna Tuttle, Gail Cohen, Jack Deen, Alice Acton, Lynn Haag, J. Matsuyama, Susan Greene, Tere Craig, Sandra Perez, Travis J. Smith, Nancy Eastman, Joan Weber, Anne Bozzerto, David Vignola, Ross Bloom, Jaki Waggoner, Kevin McLaughlin, Bruce Denmark, Steve Crosby, Reginald Smith, Mike Burton, Patty Trauthwein, Mike Zimmerman, Charles Bishop, Tammy Ebanks, Erin Alexander, Jackie Abel, Liz Gehret, Johnny Cole, Ashley Nichols, Joan Goss, B. Gorenson,

(Cont'd Page 5 Col 1)

Thank You Cont'd -

Carlos Carter, Patrice Roux-Neal, Heather Edwards, Gwendolyn Hixon, Teri Sherrod, Catherine Corcoran, Al Corella, Lisa Edenfield, Carolyn Grove, Gene Snyder, David Andress, Richard Ceriello, Mary McMillian, Rob Mintzer, Jim Goodrich, Pamela Owens, Ed Covey, Jerry Johnson, Betty McCain, Eddie Jones, Wendy Grove, Trisha Siddens, Harriet Kisilinsky, Bob Aye, Mike Beard, Jeffery Miller, Robert & Michele Phillip, Dean, Darrell & Susan Gabbard, James & Debra Myers, Jack Hatfield, Carrie Ann Whitsell, Scott Robins, Caprice Henson, P. K. Drake, Angie Weeks, Jackie Hubbard, Robert J. Kindl, Linda Williams, Louise Scott, Steve Cook, Barbara Abelhauser, Missy Durant, Ram Flynn, Lee Grose, Valerie Anthony, Howard Ford, Dolph A. Warren, Tom Serwatka, Zazzoo, D. Thomas, Wayne Powell, David Durrett, Ginny Magadline, Jeff Jones, Linda & John McCallum, Louise Goins, Lori Pezza, Sally A. McEnerney, Alice Butcher, Debra Thompson, Sherwin Pulmano, Ken Dinning, Dan Doherty, Michael McClaghlin, Andi Spengler, Jaci Britts, Lee Beckman, Thomas Pope, Sheri Martin, Rick Harris, Julie Tucker, Addam Collins, Paul King, Timothy McDermott, William O. Miller, Allison Hillyer, Jeffrey S. Crews, Karen Johnson, Ms. Sor P. Doperoy, Theresa Davis, Michell D. Marcus, Denise Deaton, Rachel, Ann Pace, John Sutton, Nathan Ashley and Angel-Marie Ashley. **Thank You one and all.**

Groups, Teams, Organizations and Companies -

AT&T Consumer Products, Olsten Health Care, PTK Kent Campus - FCCJ, Upsilon Eta of Phita Theta Kappa, First Coast United Against Discrimination, LDS 11th Ward (Cont'd next column)

Thank You Cont'd

Troop 617, Mayo Clinic, SVMC ICU, EAP Works, Jacksonville Legal Aid, Bob and Lois Conkin Family, The Hair Company, AT&T UCS Claims, Copytronics, GE Capital, Hodges Blvd. Presbyterian Church, Hickson Road Group Home, Visiting Nurses Ass'n., USS Excalibur Star Trek Club, The Third Dimension, University North Florida - Women's Center, St. Augustine Community AIDS Network, University North Florida - Student Health, Northeast Florida AIDS Network, Reddi Arts Group, St. Luke's Metropolitan Community Church Team, CARE Team Walkers, LEAGUE - AT&T, Florida Community College - MCCC Financial Aid Office, "Tashia Shipley AIDS Foundation", Catholic Charities, University Medical Center - Tox Busters, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, River Region Human Services, Bolles School - Aids Awareness Club, HRS District IV - Fiscal Accounts Payable, Oisten-Kimberly Quality Care, FCCJ - Kent Campus Volunteer Center, Stanton College Multicultural Club, AT&T - Universal Card, AT&T - BCS, The Alliance of Black Telecommunications Employees, Inc., Barnett Bank, P-FLAG, OCL State Group, Blue Cross & Blue Shield State Account Operations, The Tree Steak House, Lesbian & Gay Community Ass'n, Baptist Hospital & Families, WJXT - TV 4, Stylin Hair Salon, Florida Times Union, Bishop Kenny High School, FCCJ - South Campus, The Morrison Family, The Hatton Family, Barnett Securities, The Last Word, U.S. Department Of Labor, Sandelwood High School Natl Honor Society, Methodist Hospital - Southern Ref. Labs., Mandarin United Methodist Church, The T.E.A.M., Brownie Troop #1107, St. Johns River Power Park, Continental Cable, Dept.

(Cont'd Page 6 Col 1)

PLAN AHEAD A LEGAL CLINIC FOR PEOPLE WITH AIDS

Presented by:

**Jacksonville Area Legal
Aid, Inc.**

Durable Power of Attorney
Health Care Surrogate
Living Will

Pre-need Guardianship

Last Will and Testament

(Referrals to Jacksonville Area Legal Aid will be available for the preparation and execution of the documents for income eligible persons.)

The clinic is open to people with AIDS, people who are HIV +, and their caregivers, friends and family members.

To schedule the legal clinic for yourself, your agency, organization or support group,

Call 356-8371

Joy Eberhardt -Ext 328

or

Caroline Welkley-Ext 345

CARE TEAM

A Ministry of St. Luke's MCC, Jacksonville, FL., operates a free anonymous HIV counseling and testing site in conjunction with HRS of Florida. We are in need of additional volunteers who are state trained and certified, who wish to work in the site. For more information on volunteering - please contact Tony Suszczynski at the CARE TEAM office, 1628 San Marco Blvd., Suite 4 or call 399-8370.

Thank You Cont'd -

18KK2 - Southern Bell Telephone, UNISON, Alpha School of Massage, Baptist Medical Center - Pulmonary Department, ER Nurses & Staff, Medical - Surgical ICU, Springfield Women's Club, Psychiatric Associates, PA, "The Quattlebaum Duo", The George Carey, Jr., Team, Riverside Community Church, The Stilletos, Southern Bell - The Real Yellow Pages Team, BAPCO, Bell South Advertising and Publishing, Heartland Healthcare, C.A.R.E., American Red Cross, The "Bob Ryan Team", Parkside Surgery Center, Florida Georgia Blood Alliance, The Gehret Family & Friends, Methodist Regional Nursing Center, The Hubbard Agency, Inc. Team, Merrill Lynch Credit Corporation Team, The Junction Team and the American Express Team.

The Walk would not happened without our valuable

- VOLUNTEERS -

We owe a large debt of gratitude to Jacksonville's finest group of volunteers who - showed up, put up, carried, boxed, hauled, took down, handed out, registered, sold, manned, massaged, directed and smiled with enthusiasm. They were:

A. P. Matthews, Allie Clark, Alyssa Johnson, Angelo Herbu, Anita M. Pezza, Annie B. Montgomery, Barbara Murray, Bethany Murray, Bill Miller, Bill Napier, Bob and Sandi Jones, Bobbie and Andy Miller, Bonnie Hardy, Bruce Ross, Bryan McGahey, Cai Leppert, Carlos Rivera, Jerry Dunn, Butch Dunn, Carolton Hester, Carol Donohoe, Carolyn Shanks, Cathy
(Cont'd next column)

Volunteers Cont'd-

Zerhusen, Cher McKinney, Chris Mathis, Christy Tirado, Chuck Romanowski, Claudia Burton, Craig Marone, Dana Wildsmith,, Danielle Hiers, Darrel Mullis, David Byres, David C. Harrington, David F. Jones, David Hatfield, David Proctor, Davin R. Cilley, Dawayne Kimery, Dawn and Bob Lawton, Dawn Mateer, Dea Kerstetter, Debbie Patterson, Debbie Smith, Denise Davis, Diane Bocher, Dianne Stallings, Don Brown, Donna Reilly, Dorothea C. Bernal, Dorothy Larson, Dottie De Bruhl, Doug Edwards, Ed Fitzgerald, Elizabeth Cox, Elizabeth Forbell, Elizabeth Timmer, Esther O'Neal, Frieda and Leonard Saraga, Gene Wells, Ginger Shanks, Greg Fauth, Hal Presser, Helen Samuels, Herb Smith, Hilda C. Regalado, Ian Mairs, Irene Crocker, Iris Kahlief, Jack W. Hatfield, Jack Walden, James Banks, Hanie Milton, Jean Tinsman, Jean & Bob Holley, Jeanette McCarthy, Jeff Green, Jeff Nethery, Jim Bryner, Jim Evans, Jody Bishop, John Durante, Jr., John Warren, Jollie Ausburn, Julie Tucker, K.C. Carpenter, Kathryn Strayer, Kathy Taylor, Kay Beth Johnson, Kay Mohnney, Kenny Chin, Kristina Dugan, Lance R. Bonin, Larry Orth, Larry Perez, Larry Snyder, Lieslie Braley and Mignon Jackson, Lianne Mooney, Lillian Wagner, Linda Reeter, Lindsay Godwin, Lisa A. Gorospe, Lisa Almeida-Bender, Liz Williams, Junior League of Jacksonville, Lolita Hill, Lou Howell, Louise Grimes, Louise O. Hardman, Margaret Deschon, Mario House, Mark Reubens, Mary Hulihan, Mary Ziegler, Melissa Zook, Michael Benham, Michael Corby, Michael Fees and Kevin Ondarza, Michael Graves, Mike Devitt, Mindy Schwartz, Minoy Swartz, Nancy Benal, Kikki Santana, Noel
(Cont'd next column)

Volunteers Cont'd -

Fromm, Norma Jean, Pamela Witmer, Patsy Bivens and Jeff Jarrett, Peggy DiRollo, Peggy Krutz, Peggy Sheehan, Phil Pearson, Preston Christian, Jr., R. Wayne Edwards, Randall Erickson and Jeffrey Dowden, Ray Cessna, Rik Amador, Robert Dowson, Robert Nicholson, Jr., Robert Herrin, Robert Sanders, Roderick Booth, Ronda Deas, Ronni Sanlo, Rose Healy, Roy Ausborn, Roy Coleman, Rudy Jones, Sam Hansel, Sandy Stalnaker, Sandy Valois, Sarim Aponte, Scott Clift, Scott Sowell, Sharon Moffett, Sharon W. Stanton, Sheral McGahee, Sister Marlene Payette, Sizla Aponte, Stacy Williams, Steve Cook, Steve Payne, Steve Williams, Susan L. Jones, Therese Rose, Thomas Serwatka, Todd Foster, Tom Burrell, Tony O'Conner, Verre T. Stormec, Vickie L. Shepherd, Vickie Williams, Victoria Johnson, Vincent G. Gooden, Vivian Quinn, Walter Fitzwater, Wayne R. Marriot, Wendy Kuisko and Wendy Wallace.

The Walk For HOPE 1994 -

Salutes - Jacksonville's finest -

VOLUNTEERS

Walk For HOPE

OUTREACH PARTICIPANTS

Alpha School of Massage
American Red Cross
braIDS
CARE Team
Dream Ride For AIDS
Florida-Georgia Blood
Alliance
Main Street Clinic
Mended Hearts/American
Heart Association
Minority AIDS Coalition of
Jacksonville
Nielsen Organ Transplant
Organization
Northwest Quadrant
Comm. Health Center, Inc.
Olsten/Kimberly Quality
Care
Pizazz and Company
PWA Coalition of Jackson-
ville
Planned Parenthood of
N. E. Florida
River Region Human Ser-
vices
Roxane Laboratories
Sandoz Nutrition
St. Luke's Metropolitan
Community Church
The Last Word - Voters
Registration
Walden Books and More
Warfield Chiropractic
Women and AIDS Coalition

Thank You -
for participating in this
year's Walk For HOPE.

SPONSORS OF THE WALK FOR HOPE

Gold Medal
WIVY- Coast 102.9FM
WTLV-Channel 12
The Outback Steakhouse

Silver Medal
Reddi-Arts, Inc.
Marina Hotel and
Conference Center
Scandal Sheet Magazine

Bronze Medal
Methodist Medical
Center
St. Luke's Metropolitan
Community Church
The Rag
Sports Unlimited

Blue Ribbon
Florida Coca-Cola
Bottling Company
Institute of Business
Designers
North Florida Division
The Ritz Carlton at Amelia
Island
Merrill Lynch

Red Ribbon
LEAGUE and Friends
Legal Economics Guide-
lines
BELLSOUTH
Telecommunications

Thank You
for sponsoring the
Walk For HOPE

Are you HIV + or living with AIDS ?

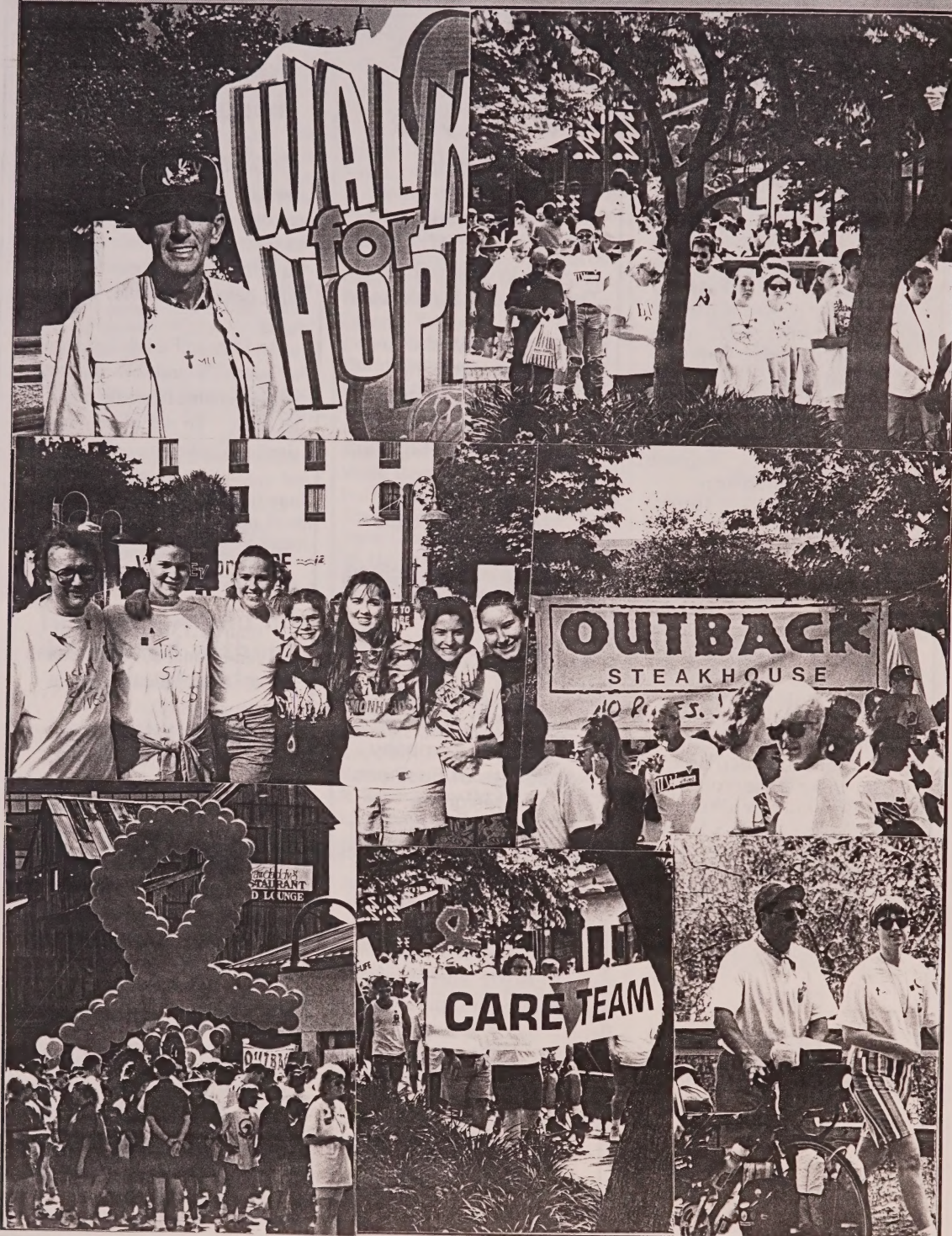
You may qualify for free or reduced cost HIV/AIDS medications. If you need AZT or ddI to fight the HIV virus and don't have the money to pay for medicine, help is available.

The State of Florida has money to buy AZT and ddI for people whose income is less than \$1,138 monthly. To get these medications at a reduced cost you must:

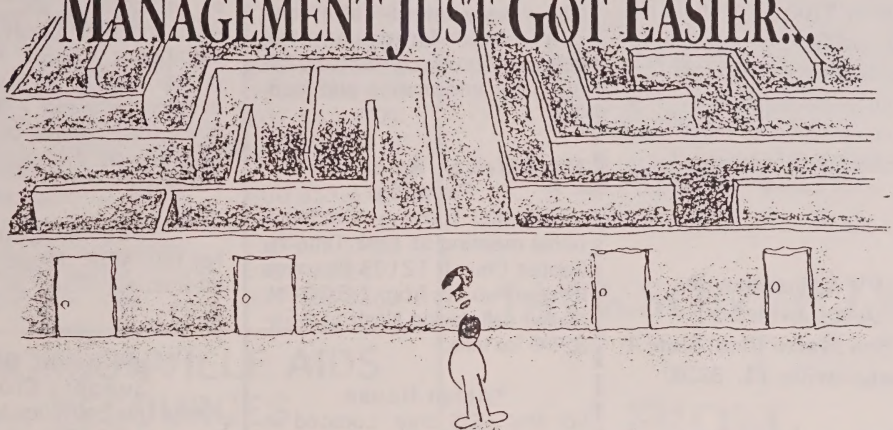
- 1) Be HIV + or diagnosed with AIDS.
- 2) Have a prescription for AZT or ddI from your doctor.
- 3) Have a monthly income less than \$1,138 for yourself (additional \$396 per month for each added person in your family).
- 4) Not have Medicaid or insurance which pays for AZT or ddI.

If you think you qualify for free/reduced cost HIV/AIDS medications or want more information, call:

Dan Betancourt
at (904) 358-8386
HRS Duval County
Public Health Unit
Main Street Clinic
962 North Main Street
Jacksonville, Florida



FINDING YOUR WAY THROUGH CASE MANAGEMENT JUST GOT EASIER...



AND FRIENDLIER!

The maze of local, state and national agencies, insurance companies, help groups, food services, medical services...can become overwhelming very quickly. Often you may feel lost and in need of guidance from a friend willing to help. That friend is the new **Partners Program** from PWAC-J.

THE PARTNERS PROGRAM: CASE MANAGEMENT IN ACTION

Med Waiver Through Project AIDS Care

- ☐ **PARTNERS** offers a case management program based on compassion, care and respect for you and for your significant others.
- ☐ **PARTNERS** is client focused, where you have a voice in determining your care and your needs.
- ☐ **PARTNERS** is a program offered by people like you, who understand the community in which you live.

If you are already enrolled in a case management program,
call and learn the difference Partners can make.

YOU FINALLY HAVE A CHOICE!

The Choice Is Yours...904/398-9292

Support the PWA Coalition

Help support the **PWA Coalition of Jacksonville** financially. Donors of \$100.00 or more are recognized for their tax-deductible donations as **Sponsors**, unless otherwise requested. Use the coupon below to make your tax-deductible donation today.

Send this coupon to:

**PWA Coalition of
Jacksonville, Inc.
1628 San Marco Blvd. Suite 4
Jacksonville, FL 32207**

___ I want to be a **Sponsor** of the PWACJ (\$100.00 or more).

___ I am unable to donate now, but please add my name to your mailing list.

___ I would like to be a monthly donor of (\$5, \$10, \$15, \$25) to the **PWA Coalition of Jacksonville**.

___ I would like to become a member. Send me an application and volunteer information.

Your donation will help **PWACJ** continue this newsletter. All donations are tax-deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Jacksonville HIV/AIDS Support Groups

*African-American

Meets every Saturday afternoon at a northside location at 4 PM. Please call group contact at 928-9955 for information and location.

*African-American Families

New group forming. Organizational meeting at First Timothy Baptist Church 12103 Biscayne Blvd on Feb 18, from 7-8:30 PM. Please call Jackie Nash at 358-8386 for info.

*Aslan House

For HIV/AIDS only. Located at 225 E. Duval St., at First Methodist Church. Group meets, the first, second and fourth Tuesday evening of the month between 7-9 PM. For info, call 353-4357.

*Black Gay Men Support

Meets first and third Thursday at Main Street Clinic. For info, call Jackie Nash at 358-8386.

*Family Connection

For family of persons who are HIV/AIDS. Meets every Monday evening at 7 PM. Meeting is facilitated. If interested, call Bob or Jean at 384-5788.

*Healing Alternatives

Meets every Wednesday evening between 7-8:30 PM. If interested call Ann at 904-249-9477.

*HIV Spiritual Support

To provide compassionate spiritual support by means of home visitations, office and/or phone calls. For info call 632-0022.

*Nassau County

Meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month. If interested call Ralph at 277-4648.

*Positive-Positives

Sponsored by the PWA Coalition of Jacksonville, Inc. For HIV/AIDS and their family, friends & significant others. Facilitated group meets every Monday evening between 7-9PM at St. Vincent's Hospital, use the King St. entrance. If interested, please call 398-9292.

*Putnam County

For HIV/AIDS. Meets weekly. If interested call Jon at 904-328-3221.

*Significant Others Support Group

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM at Aslan House. For info, call 353-4357.

*St. John's Cathedral Support Group

Located at 256 E. Church St. Group meets the first and third Thursday evening of the month at 7 PM. Meeting open to HIV/AIDS, family and friends. For info, call 356-5507.

*Tri-Base

HIV/AIDS Navy personnel only. Meets monthly. For more info call Diane Parker at 772-2766.

*Women's Group at St. John's Cathedral

Meets the second and fourth Wednesday at St. John's Cathedral. For info, call 356-5507.

*Women's Support Group

HIV/AIDS women only support group meets the second and fourth Thursday evening of the month at Main Street Clinic, at 962 N. Main St., between 6-7 PM. For more info, call Jackie Nash at 358-8386.

NATIONAL AIDS RESOURCES

AIDS Action Council	202-547-3101
AIDS Information Line Florida	800-352-2437
Gay Mens Health Crisis	212-807-6655
Health Info Network Women & AIDS	206-784-5655
Mothers of AIDS Patients	619-234-3432
Nat'l AIDS Network	202-546-2424
Nat'l Minority AIDS Council	202-544-1076
Nat'l Assoc. /People With AIDS	202-898-0414
People With AIDS Coalition Jacksonville, Inc.	800-851-1128
Project Inform (alternative AIDS information)	800-822-7422
Public Health Service Hotline	800-342-2437
The Mothers Initiative	800-828-3280

JACKSONVILLE AIDS RESOURCES

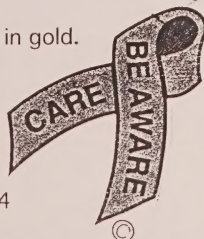
ACE	632-0022
American Red Cross	358-8091
Bridges House Calls	398-4357
Care Team	399-8370
Community Service Center	354-5250
Family Connections	384-5788
Free Anonymous HIV Test at St. Luke's MCC	358-6747
Gateway Community Services	387-4661
HRS, AIDS Program Office	727-3643
Lesbian-Gay Community Assn.	389-1572
Main St. Clinic/Anonymous Tests	358-8386
N'east Florida AIDS Network (NFAN)	356-1612
PWA Coalition of Jacksonville, Inc.	398-9292
River Region Human Services	359-6571
St. John's Horizon House	798-8250
Suicide Prevention Center	353-2223

LAPEL PINS

1" metal red ribbon lapel pin
with "BE AWARE...CARE" in gold.

Cost: \$5.00 each

Available from PWACJ
1628 San Marco Blvd. Suite 4
Jacksonville, FL 32207
Call 398-9292 or FAX 398-9517



THANK YOU
THANK YOU
THANK YOU

JACKSONVILLE

FROM

CARE TEAM

ST. JOHN'S HORI-
ZON HOUSE

PWA COALITION
OF JACKSONVILLE,
INC.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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PERMIT NO. 78

PWA COALITION OF JACKSONVILLE, INC.
1628 SAN MARCO BLVD., SUITE 4
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32207
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Cliff Morrison
Covenant MCC
P.O. Box 101473
Birmingham, AL 35210

STOP ANTI-GAY DISCRIMINATION IN HEALTH CARE

No one should be denied access to quality health care because of their sexual orientation or health status.

Like other minority populations, **lesbian and gay Americans experience poor access to care**, lack preventive care, lack appropriate services and frequently experience discrimination by health providers.

In a recent national survey conducted by the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights (AAPHR), **9 out of 10 physicians reported observing anti-gay bias**; 67% of the respondents reported knowing of lesbian or gay patients who have received substandard care because of their sexual orientation.

Some insurance companies are redlining certain zip codes and certain employers because coverage might mean enrolling a high number of persons with HIV/ AIDS.

Currently, **no federal law prohibits health care providers from discriminating** on the basis of sexual orientation or protects the employment rights of gay or lesbian health care providers.

An independent poll by Melman, Lazarus, Lake, Inc. found that **67% of Americans favor a health care reform bill that specifically prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation** in the delivery and quality of health care.

The Melman, Lazarus, Lake, Inc. poll found that **54% of Americans would be more likely to vote for a Member of Congress this November if he/she supported prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination in health care**; only 20% would be less likely to vote for a Member of Congress who supported prohibiting discrimination in health care based on sexual orientation.

Any health care legislation should prohibit health care system individuals and organizations from discriminating on the basis of race, national origin, sex, language, income, age, sexual orientation, disability, health status or anticipated need for health services.



Dear FAN Member:

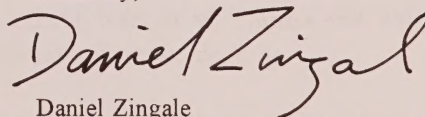
Jesse Helms is running amok on the floor of the United States Senate, waging a divisive campaign of hate and discrimination against lesbian and gay Americans. Just last week, he targeted lesbian and gay youth in a mean-spirited amendment to the Senate education bill that would cut off funds to local schools with programs "encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative." This bill prohibits school counselors from talking a gay youth out of committing suicide -- or even referring a troubled teen to an outside group for support. It also robs local school districts of the freedom to determine how best to meet the needs of students and their families.

Helms and his right-wing allies are expected to take to the Senate floor again. This time, they are targeting your right to quality health care. When the health reform bill comes to the Senate floor for a vote, Helms and his allies will move to strike sexual orientation from the bill's non-discrimination clause. This would leave lesbian and gay Americans open to blatant discrimination in health care. Lesbian and gay people can face health care discrimination in the form of substandard care or denial of medical services. No federal law prohibits health care discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

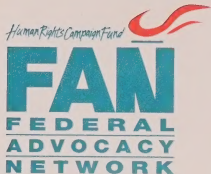
We need your help to stop Helms. Please call your Senators now and tell them to support non-discrimination in health care. Tell them to VOTE NO on amendments to the health reform bill that would strike sexual orientation from the non-discrimination clause. Tell them: NO ONE SHOULD BE DENIED ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE BECAUSE OF THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR HEALTH STATUS. To contact your Senators, call the U.S. Capitol at 202-224-3121. If you don't know your Senators' names, simply ask the Capitol operator.

This is a critical vote for our community. The federal government has never before recognized the problem of anti-gay discrimination in health care or any other area. We need to send the message that discrimination is wrong. Please call your Senators today!

Sincerely,



Daniel Zingale
Public Policy Director



1608 081194 MLDCR#8 WGMF DC 20066

~~Covenant Metropolitan Community Church~~
PO Box 101473
Birmingham AL 35210-6473

ACTION ALERT

Human Rights Campaign Fund, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, DC 20043





The Human Rights Campaign Fund
Federal Advocacy Network

P.O. Box 1396
Washington, DC 20013

Human Rights Campaign Fund



FAN
FEDERAL
ADVOCACY
NETWORK

To write your Representative:
The Honorable _____
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

To write your Senators:
The Honorable _____
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

To contact your Representative or Senators, call the Capitol Switchboard: (202) 224-3121.
To find out who your Representative is, call your local election board.



As America's largest lesbian and gay political organization, the Human Rights Campaign Fund fights to end discrimination based on sexual orientation and to protect the safety and health of lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals. We welcome all lesbian, gay, and bisexual Americans who are concerned about these issues to join us. We also encourage and appreciate membership support from non-gay supporters — our families, friends, co-workers and neighbors.

To join HRCF's Federal Advocacy Network and receive our monthly Action Alert, call or write us at: HRCF, P.O. Box 1396, Washington, DC, (202) 628-4160.

AUGUST 1994



PROTECT EQUAL RIGHTS IN HEALTH CARE

CALL CONGRESS!

HELMS AND ALLIES ON THE ATTACK

Call your U.S. Senators now! Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) or his allies in the Senate are poised to attack a provision in the health care reform bill that would prohibit discrimination in health care on the basis of sexual orientation and health status. If this attack succeeds, lesbians, gay men, and HIV+ individuals would be left open to blatant discrimination in health care in the form of substandard care or the denial of medical services.

ANTI-GAY DISCRIMINATION IS WIDESPREAD

Many lesbian and gay Americans, perhaps even you or a friend, have personally experienced discrimination in health care. In a survey conducted by the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, nine out of ten physicians reported seeing anti-gay bias in health care. Sixty-seven percent reported knowing of lesbian or gay patients who had received substandard care because of their sexual orientation.

AMERICANS SUPPORT NON-DISCRIMINATION CLAUSE

Americans are overwhelmingly opposed to discrimination in health care. A poll conducted by the prominent firm of

Mellman, Lazarus, Lake, Inc. found that 67 percent of Americans favor a health care reform bill that specifically prohibits discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in the delivery and quality of health care.

Since our March Action Alert on this issue, six Congressional Committees, three in the House and three in the Senate, have included sexual orientation and health status in their non-discrimination clauses. However, the Radical Right will still attack our right to quality health care on the Senate floor as part of a greater strategy to prevent lesbians and gay men from obtaining equal rights.

PICK UP YOUR PHONE NOW!

There is no more time to waste! We urge you, your friends, and your families to call your Senators now to voice your support for non-discrimination in health care. Tell them to VOTE NO on amendments that would strike sexual orientation or health status from the non-discrimination clause. **NO ONE SHOULD BE DENIED ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE BECAUSE OF THEIR SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR HEALTH STATUS.** Discrimination is wrong. Lesbians and gay men deserve the same rights to access quality health care as all Americans.

ALERT

The Federal Advocacy Network is a Program of The Human Rights Campaign Fund



SAMPLE PHONE SCRIPT

- 1:** To call your Senators, follow the instructions on the enclosed wallet card.
- 2:** When you reach your Senators' offices, tell them the following:
"Please VOTE NO on any amendment to the health care reform bill that would strike sexual orientation from the non-discrimination clause. Lesbian and gay Americans face widespread discrimination in health care. Discrimination is fundamentally wrong. No one should be denied access to

- quality health care because of their sexual orientation or health status. Thank you."
- 3:** Fill out your Response Card just as if you had written and sent your Members of Congress letters and return it to us in the enclosed envelope.
- 4:** Call HRCF's Public Policy Department at (202)628-4160 if you receive any *notable* feedback from your Senators' offices.
- 5:** See if you can quickly activate the phone trees of any other lesbian and gay or progressive organizations which you are involved in or know of.

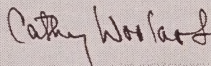
Jesse Helms has recently surpassed his high water mark for anti-gay amendments to Senate legislation. Over the years, Helms has targeted gay men and lesbians, especially on appropriations bill, by abusing the Senate's flexibility on rules governing amendments. In the last several weeks, he has attached negative amendments to bills as disparate as the Agriculture Appropriations bill and the Elementary and Secondary Act and has threatened to amend many others, each time without giving his Senate colleagues the benefit of advance notice beyond a general request to amend a particular bill.

Our challenge lies in quickly mobilizing the community and the Senate to strongly oppose an amendment when we don't have the specific language with which to inform people. At times like this, our Speak Out program becomes a vital resource, allowing us to send messages very quickly. However, we count on our FAN member's and lobbyist's relationships with Congressional staff to get us through these tough votes.

We are responding to each Helms amendment by manipulating the Senate rules as assertively as the N.C. Senator and we are usually successful at neutralizing the effect of his work. However, we are not able to stop Senator Helms from using this strategy, nor are we able to give much notice to the community when we only have a few hours or minutes to prepare. I urge you to call your Senators now and ask them to vote against Helms each and every time he attacks us.

You should have received a special Action Alert in the last several days alerting you to the inclusion of sexual orientation in the non-discrimination provisions of Health Care Reform. The debate has begun and we expect Senator Helms or his allies to try to amend the bills to take "sexual orientation" and "health status" out of the legislation. As usual, we will have very little, if any, advance notice before he acts. Help us make sure that no American is denied medical treatment or forced to accept an inferior standard of care due to their sexual orientation. Take action now and keep the pressure on until the Health Care Reform legislation now before Congress passes with the non-discrimination provisions intact.

Thanks for your support,



Cathy Woolard
Deputy Director of Public Policy

EXTRA CREDIT

make appointments with them to discuss the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). Your visits can effectively educate your Members to become ENDA co-sponsors. HRCF will provide the information you need for your visits. Please let us know when you have an appointment so that we can strategize about the best approach for your meetings. 🌸

HELPFUL HINTS

Action Alert. When you phone your Senator to include sexual orientation in health care legislation, use information in the booklet to discuss the health care issues you care about. 🌸

It's time to schedule August recess visits with your Members of Congress. Your Members should be in their district offices through Labor Day. Please

You should have received HRCF's latest publication, *What Every Lesbian and Gay American Needs to Know About Health Reform*, with July's

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

ENDA

The Senate Labor Committee held hearings on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994 (ENDA) on Friday, July 29. These hearings were the first ever in the Senate on legislation specifically prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation to be held. HRCF recruited, transported, and trained three key witnesses: Cheryl Summerville, a lesbian who was fired from the Cracker Barrel restaurant chain because of her sexual orientation; Ernest Dillon who was beaten up by his coworkers at the U.S. Post Office for being gay; and Warren Phillips, former CEO and Chairman of Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

NEGATIVE AMENDMENTS

Agriculture Appropriations Bill

On July 19, the Senate voted 92-8 to pass an amendment by Senator Helms to prohibit the Agriculture Department from carrying out seminars or funding any position which encourages its employees to recruit on the basis of homosexual orientation or accepts homosexuality as a legitimate lifestyle.

On July 20, the Senate voted 59-41 to pass another Helms amendment to require a public hearing prior to the removal of an Agriculture Department employee from a job position because of remarks made by the employee outside of work in opposition to departmental policies regarding homosexuals. However, with help from HRCF staffers, this amendment was diffused by an amendment by Senator Bumpers to make it apply to public statements in opposition to policies regarding any group.

Elementary and Secondary Education Act

On August 1, the Senate passed a Helms amendment to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to cut off federal funds to schools "encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative" by a vote of 63-36. However, what wasn't reported in the media was that the Senate then voted unanimously to adopt an amendment to the same act by Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA) to prohibit the direct use of federal funds to "promote or encourage sexual activity" of any kind. Senator Kennedy offered his amendment as a means to mitigate the anti-gay effect of the Helms amendment. We hope that Senator Kennedy's amendment will replace the Helms amendment when the bill goes to a conference committee. 🌸



☐ I encouraged _____ friend(s) and/or organization(s) to write and mail their own letters and to join the Federal Advocacy Network. I have listed their names and addresses below.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Is this a change of address since
you last responded to an Action Alert? _____

Day Phone (_____) _____

Day Fax (_____) _____

Evening Phone (_____) _____

Evening Fax (_____) _____

☐ YES, I wrote to:

Mail this form to:

The Human Rights Campaign Fund
Federal Advocacy Network
P.O. Box 1396
Washington, DC 20013

G. L. FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER CALENDAR

The Community Center features a variety of groups available to the public. To assist you in locating a specific group or finding out more about them, you will find a list of groups available, a description of the group, and when they meet:

Alcoholics Anonymous (Sundays, 4:00 PM)

Welcomes individuals who feel a need for support, have a concern, and/or other items pertaining to alcohol or drug abuse in their lives. A warm and sharing community that is there to listen to others as well as express their feelings.

Metropolitan Community Church, MCC (Sundays, 5:30 PM)

Sorority and Fraternity (Sundays, 7:00 PM)

Female Illusionists, cross-dressers, transgenders, and others who participate in wearing clothing of the opposite sex, male or female. This gives the opportunity to share tips, ideas, give support, and much more. Welcomes individuals who don't participate, but have questions or wish to give their support.

Newsletter Committee Meetings (First Monday each Month, 7:00 PM)

Services Committee (Second Monday of each month, 7:00 PM)

G.L. Friendly Board- and General Membership Meeting (Third Monday of each month, 7:00 PM)

Fundraising/Finance Committee (Fourth Monday of each month, 7:00 PM)

Alanon (Tuesdays, 6:00 PM)

Family members and supporters of individuals with drinking and/or drug problems share their experiences and support each other. Help deal with the pressures and emotions of loving individuals with this problem.

Roundtable (Thursdays, 7:00 PM)

A roundtable discussion pertaining to today's world and each other. Individuals getting to know each other and the different aspects of each others' worlds. A "Rap" Session.

Youth Group (Fridays & Saturdays 7:00 PM)

25 years of age and under. This group is available to individuals wishing to talk, share, and express concerns pertaining to their age group in today's world.

Potluck (Saturdays, 7:00 PM)

Come and join our group for interesting conversation & great food! Covered dish appreciated but not a requirement.

Responding to Homophobic Rhetoric

Right-wing opponents to civil rights for gay, lesbian, and bisexual people use similar arguments and rhetoric around the country, whether they're in Prineville, Oregon; Colorado Springs, Colorado; Knoxville, Tennessee; or Anchorage, Alaska. This article includes responses, ideas, and themes you may use to counter their erroneous allegations. Each topic begins with the rhetoric used by the conservative right, followed by some ideas on how to respond.

Homosexuals are already covered under the Constitution just like the rest of us. What they want are special rights. We oppose special rights for homosexuals.

The right wing rhetoric of "special rights" skews the issue. The right to get and keep a job based on merit is not a special right. Equal access to housing is not a special right. Renting a hotel room and being served food in a restaurant are not special rights. The right to have and raise children without the state seizing them is not a special right. The right to walk down a street and not get attacked because of who you are and whom you love is not a special right. Gay and lesbian people want the same rights guaranteed to all American citizens. However, without civil rights laws which specifically ban discrimination based on sexual orientation, gay people can lose their jobs, their homes, and their families and be refused service at public accommodations simply because they are gay -- with no legal recourse. Right-wing zealots who speak of special rights want the very special right to discriminate against those they hate.

Local ordinances for gay men and lesbians force the rest of us to live against our religious beliefs. We're entitled to our rights too.

Extending civil rights to one sector of the society does not withdraw rights from another. Most civil rights ordinances provide exemptions for religious institutions. In addition, many gay and lesbian members of various religious denominations are organizing within their faith so that religious institutions may become more accepting of the diversity of their following.

They want to be treated like a minority, like an ethnic minority. The Supreme Court says they're not. And we know they're not because they never rode in the back of the bus and they are not economically deprived. Studies show that gay men have more disposable income than the rest of Americans.

Gay men and lesbians are a numerical minority in American society. Like ethnic minorities, we do face job loss, evictions, non-service at public accommodations, and the loss of our children simply because of who we are. And like other minorities, gay people face harassment, physical assault, and murder based on an assailant's hatred against us as a group. A Department of Justice study reported that "homosexuals are the most frequent victims" of hate crime. "Minority status" affords no benefits to anyone; rather it provides guidelines to attempt to redress the inequalities that impair the exercise of constitutionally guaranteed freedoms, including equal protection under the law. Our constitution says that all people are created equal -- that must include gay and lesbian people as well.

Homosexuals lead an abominable lifestyle. People who care about traditional family values must not encourage the open expression of this sexual depravity.

Discrimination is the abomination, not gay and lesbian people. The family values we uphold are support, love, understanding, and respect between family members. Discrimination and bigotry are not traditional family values.

You can't let gays near children; since they can't reproduce, they recruit. And they are all pedophiles.

Statistics show that the vast majority of sexual abuse is committed by men against women, usually within the heterosexual family structure. Pedophiles are criminals who derive illicit pleasure from sexual abuse of children, and whose adult sexual attractions are almost always to members of the opposite sex. Most sexual abuse of children occurs at the hands of parents or relatives. Lies perpetuate stereotypes that are then used to deny gay people their rights. It is wrong to deny rights based on these myths.

Gay people want to force their lifestyle on us and take away our rights.

Civil rights laws that include lesbian and gay people do not limit the rights of others. Instead, they extend to gays and lesbians the same rights already enjoyed by most Americans -- the right to obtain and keep employment based on ability to do the job; the right to equal access to housing; the right to raise their children; and the right to live free of violence. There is no so-called "gay lifestyle." Gay men and lesbians are members of every social class, religious faith, ethnic group, occupation, and political affiliation. Gay people are not interested in forcing anything on anyone -- just the opposite. We demand the freedom to live our lives with the same freedoms and rights that are accorded to all citizens, without fear that our liberty will be usurped by far-right bigots and religious intolerance.

What about bisexuals? They sometimes pretend to be normal heterosexual people, but they engage in the same abnormal, unhealthy sexual practices as homosexuals. Bisexuals are getting AIDS from homosexual sex and then spreading it throughout the heterosexual community.

Bisexual men and women live, work, and organize within the gay and lesbian community and in the larger human rights community. Lesbians, gay men, and bi people are targets of the same oppression, excused on the basis that we value sexual and affectional relationships with members of the same gender. The US Department of Defense "ban against gays in the military" also includes those acting or identifying as bisexual. Many right-wing initiatives, including Colorado's Amendment 2, target bisexuals along with gay men and lesbians in their petition language and in the effects of their discriminatory legislation. Lesbians, gay men, and bi people work together to oppose these attempts to legislate against our civil rights. AIDS is the cumulative effect of immunosuppression exacerbated by the presence of a virus (HIV) that critically impairs the ability of the body to keep itself well. Viruses do not target specific people or discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or identity. The prevention of HIV/AIDS ultimately rests with each individual person's being responsible for his or her own actions, regardless of sexual orientation, class, race, gender, or sexual identity.

SUPPORT EMPLOYMENT BILL

Sen. Edward Kennedy and Reps. Barney Frank and Gerry Studds (all D-MA) introduced a bill in June that would ban employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. The bill, the Employment Non Discrimination Act (ENDA) of 1994, was introduced at a press conference June 23, 1994 where Coretta Scott King, other civil rights leaders and members of congress expressed support for the legislation.

The Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, the pre-eminent civil rights lobbying group, has endorsed and is spearheading passage of the legislation, in conjunction with NGLTF and other gay and lesbian organizations. The legislation (S2238 and HR 4636) has 30 co-sponsors in the Senate and 113 co-sponsors in the House. Contact your Representative and Senator and ask that they co-sponsor and support HR 4636 and S 2238. Call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 to get the names and numbers of your Representatives and Senators.

WASHINGTON D.C. NEEDS YOUR HELP

Because D.C. is not a state but operates under home rule guidelines, Congress has oversight of all D.C. laws. For the past two years, Congress has blocked D.C. from implementing its domestic partnership laws by placing language in the annual appropriation bill prohibiting D.C. from spending any money on domestic partnerships. This month, it is expected that a negative amendment will again be offered on the floor of the D.C. Appropriation bill (HR 4649). Because votes on D.C. issues do not affect their home-town voters, members of Congress often use it as an opportunity to grandstand on gay issues. Contact your Representative immediately. Urge him/her to oppose attempts to deny D.C. the right to establish domestic partnership. Tell them the act is a local law passed by D.C.'s elected officials and Congress should not meddle in D.C.'s local laws. Call you Representative through the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

GAY REPUBLICANS JOIN IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL ANTI-DISCRIMINATION BILL

Log Cabin Republicans, the nation's largest GOP gay rights organization, is calling on Republicans in the U.S. Congress to support the passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994 (ENDA), which was introduced June 23, in the House and Senate. If passed, ENDA will prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

ENDA was drafted with extensive Republican input and contains the following provisions that Republicans can support:

- It exempts religious organizations, including institutions substantially controlled or supported by religious organizations, such as charities, schools and universities.
- It prohibits quotas and preferential treatment on the basis of sexual orientation. Gay Americans do not want special right or special treatment. They want to have the same rights and responsibilities afforded all other Americans.
- It exempts small businesses of fewer than 15 employees, and does not apply to uniformed personnel of the Armed Forces of the United States.
- It explicitly does not require employers to provide same-sex partner benefits.

"We are confident that this is a bill that Republicans can support," said Richard Tafel, national director of Log Cabin Republicans. "There has never been a bill like this before, and all of the data shows that it reflects the values and concerns of an overwhelming majority of Americans who believe that merit should be the sole basis for hiring."

"The best expression of why this bill is necessary came from a conversation I had recently with an aide to a conservative member of Congress," Tafel said. "He said that no one should be denied the ability to put food on the table just for being gay."

Among the original co-sponsors of the ENDA is Rep. Michael Huffington, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate in California.

Log Cabin Republicans will be meeting with a broad spectrum of GOP members in the House and Senate to gain support for passage of ENDA, and has activated grass-roots supporters from 40 Log Cabin Clubs in 28 states to contact their representatives.



Another Reason To Go To The Beach

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Beware of the Religious Right

Seeing all the publicity that cross living has received in Hollywood's films of late, we might be tempted to be more at ease. Perhaps public tolerance or even acceptance is around the corner? Think again. We should not be surprised at a grass roots backlash against the 30 year trend of recognizing peoples' rights. Haven't you overheard people say "When is this rights crap going to stop?" It is high time that gender-issue people speak up for their born rights before the "Moral Majority" closes the door for good.

As you realize, the fight for rights and equal treatment under the law does not ever stop--the blacks and women have pursued this for over 100 years. This year on June 26, the Gay and Lesbian community celebrate 25 years of confronting the "system." But homosexuality has been with mankind for all time. The contributions of gay artists, thinkers, scientists and composers are well-known. There is a primitive bias against being different. But different from what or who? All three of the groups just mentioned have been historically marginalized, discounted and denigrated. Curiously enough, all have been lumped together as 'women like' and that is lower status than white male, macho male or WASP male. So now we know the historical standard of comparison for all time since Adam is Man. The oldest and greatest scourge of life was to be born a woman. Even the 'great' Sigmund Freud in this century said so and so it must be. The greatest sin in the Western world at least was to be born black or with color period. If the world of 'men' can be so cruel to humans who had no choice in their inferior status, what becomes of us--the sex and gender benders? To be 'women like' places you at the top of the contempt list. Run for the closet?

The Religious Right movement today is the incorporation of this ancestral Patriarchal 'good olde boy' hate group. The women in this group reject the Feminist equality concept as the 'Devil's work and willingly buy into inferiority--they ask-- "Could the world have been that wrong for that long?" YES!! At one time the world did not know anything of world during the age of goddesses.

OK, who are these Religious Right people? The demographics are as follows:

- More often rural and farm
- Bible Belt: Central & South Central States
- White Supremacists everywhere

- Religious Cultists/ Fundamentalists
- Arch Conservatives/Rush Limbaugh

OK, how will these fanatics hatch their evil plans? Simple, by exercising their rights and freedoms:

- Elected to School Boards
- Appointed to library committees
- Become Town Fathers
- Influencing Police and courts
- Active with Chamber of Commerce
- Hand on local political pulps
- Move influence to State level
- Elected to Federal Office
- Vote on laws influencing YOUR freedom (such as Jesse Helms)

Now do you get the picture?

Possibly the best social attitude to emerge in the last thirty years is the recognition, and tolerance(?) of diversity in all people. The lie passed down for centuries is that conformity for the masses was good for society. Yes, it is a great way for the ruling class to control hoards of common folk. In America, the industrial-military complex with politics is the ruling class. The Religious Right preaches the salvation messages of: joyous conformity to religious dictates; to all government officials, especially your local sheriff; the need for persecution and eradication of non-conforming weirdoes like us. Because of the debt structure in this country--the great majority of people must swallow this at work--cogs in a wheel. Our economic system (life in debt) then caters to the righteous right interest. If dissension is legally and morally outlawed, then another Nazi Germany can happen anywhere and anytime.

The recognition of, acceptance of, and protection of being unique by society would be the high point of civilization. We are so very close to that concept; we the trans-gendered--surely the most unique of all humanity--must actively work for our own existence. The recognition of diversity--both good and bad--has been the message of great minds for two hundred years: composers, philosophers, artists, scientists, psychologists and even religious writers. Yet against this enormous human achievement we are, alas--a number, a 'social security number'. This irony is bone chilling to me--what about you?

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TRANSGENDER PRESENCE AT THE STONEWALL 25 EVENT

Phyllis Randolph Frye (ICTLEP Executive Director)

As 1993 came to a close, it was painfully obvious that the transgender (and bisexual) community was again going to be excluded from the title of a major gay/lesbian/transgender/bisexual international event, this time being the Stonewall 25 March to Affirm Human Rights to be held in New York City on June 26, 1994.

Led by Phyllis Randolph Frye, the International Conference for Transgender Law and Employment Policy, Inc. (ICTLEP) began a six month effort to educate the lesbian and gay community (1) that titular inclusion in such events was a necessity, (2) that "lesbian and gay" was not universally recognized to include transgender (or bisexual), and (3) that homosexual drags were also part of the transgender community and would receive similar discrimination as do heterosexual transgenders even when "lesbian and gay" rights were secured. Frye asserted she would lead a group of individuals into non-violent, civil disobedience during the event.

During the next months, Frye and ICTLEP intentionally remained outside of the Stonewall Committee processes with her promise of a non-violent educational protest, with her numerous articles in the queer media, and with her speeches around the country at both transgender and lesbian/gay events. Working within these processes were many, but most significant were both Jessica Xavier and Jeffery Pendleton from the DC area, and both Denise Norris and Ricki Anne Wichins from Transsexual Menace in NYC. Other significant advisers included Ray Hill (Chair of 1979 March on Washington) and ICTLEP F-T-M Inclusion Coordinator, Aaron Davis. Forceful were the position statements from the International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) and the Congress of Transgender Organizations (CTO), both of which struck at the non-inclusion in the title of the Stonewall 25 event.

On Saturday, June 25th, Frye and ICTLEP Director, Sharon Stuart, met with their New York City lawyer, Margo Disenhouse. After a long discussion, Frye issued the following:

After considering (1) the initial non-inclusion of the transgender community by the Stonewall 25 event; (2) the movement towards inclusion by the Stonewall 25 event since complaints formulated by ICTLEP beginning in January and carrying through until this date; and especially (3) THE SENSE OF DISSATISFACTION WITH BEING EXCLUDED COMBINED WITH THE SENSE OF UNITY THAT THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY APPEARS TO NOW POSSESS; therefore, the International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy, Inc., calls for an end to the planned non-violent civil disobedience that it initiated for the purpose of education.

ICTLEP invites all -- transgender (including transsexual and drag), bisexual, gay, lesbian, and supporting straight -- to support and attend its Third Annual Conference --

TRANSGEN'94: YOUR JOBS, YOUR RIGHTS, YOUR HEALTH AND YOUR DOCUMENTS -- in Houston, 17 through 21 August. We remind the drag part of the transgender community that unless rights are achieved for "gender identification" that they will be discriminated against as are heterosexual transgendered once lesbian and gay rights are achieved.

The transgendered were in the concentration camps and wore the pink triangles and were exterminated with lesbians and gays and bisexuals. The transgendered were also at Stonewall in significant numbers and fought back along with lesbians and gays and bisexuals.

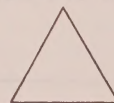
To my lesbian, gay and bisexual sisters and brothers we say: "Don't steal our history and don't leave us behind. We will not stand for it"

Sunday, June 26th, was a beautiful day. The participants assembled within a forty-two block area -- so many people that even though the march began at 11 AM, the last groups did not enter the parade route until after 4 PM. The transgender marchers assembled in four areas (another Stonewall Committee screw-up to divide us): one for drag, one for tg/drag parents/children, one for tg/drag political, one for transgender specific. Early at 3 PM, the whistles, bands, loud speakers, yelling and other noises subsided over about fifteen seconds and then stopped -- a moment of silence honoring those who have died because of the "tyranny of the majority" -- dead quiet in Manhattan for a full two minutes. Then the deafening noise and celebration began again and the march continued into Central Park. 6500 cops were there: No arrests were made.

The transgender community (and its overt sign-carrying supporters) was very large. When spread out over the parade route, the drags alone covered four blocks, the tg/drag parents/children covered a block and the tg/drag political spread past a block. The transgender specifics and those overtly including transgender in their banners strung out over twelve full blocks during the march. The transgender specifics carried over twelve banners of its own from Transgender Rights (TGR), Transgender Nation (TN), the Monmouth Ocean TG Group (MOTG) and other local and regional tg support groups. The lead banner, reading "TRANSGENDERED AND PROUD AND WE VOTE!", also lead the transgender contingent in the 1993 March on Washington. Following the tg specifics were Leslie Feinberg and the Worker's World Party which overtly included transgender in its banners. Next, came the Rocky Horror Picture Show crossdressers. Finally, came the Band which had amended its banner to include the term transgender.

If placed together, all transgender and those overtly inclusive of transgender in their banners, would have covered over eighteen blocks of marchers. THEREFORE, THE TRANSGENDERED (AND BISEXUALS) ARE DESERVING OF TITULAR RECOGNITION IN ALL FUTURE EVENTS.

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(Spirit cont. from page 1)

"We do not seek tolerance and acceptance," said Wanda Henson. "We seek equality under the law and freedom from oppression, intimidation, and harassment. We seek justice and a legal system that is capable and willing to defend our rights."

Both James Hendry and Rev. John Allen stated during their testimony that the harassment and incidents against the Hensons are unsubstantiated and they implied and overtly stated that the Hensons created the campaign against them for publicity. Contrary to previous statements, both Hendry and Allen said they do not want the Hensons to leave Ovett. Instead, they merely oppose the "commercial" aspect of Camp Sister Spirit. (These statements are countered by Hendry's own words, from a column in the *Hattiesburg American* as early as November 28, 1993: "The only solution I can think of is to come together as a community, pool our resources and buy back the land... This group has left the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Let's encourage them to keep heading north to New York or west to California. If they would relocate to a major metropolitan area, I am sure they would be happier.") In the past, Hendry and Allen have also said they would not oppose a Christian camp, with similar "commercial" use.)

Hendry went on to list incidents of harassing mail and phone calls he has received since January. Hendry played a tape of several graphic phone calls. Allen also referred to harassment targeting him as a spokesperson for Mississippi for Family Values and asked the Congressmen to "reject [the Hensons'] claims and desires." While Allen's testimony focused on his moral opposition to the Hensons' lesbianism and the "gay and lesbian agenda," he did not outline any specific goals except that the Hensons "experience the life-changing redemption found in a genuine faith surrender to Jesus Christ."

Only one Mississippi official directly implicated by the Henson participated in the hearing. Jim Ingram, commissioner of Public Safety, did not submit a formal statement, but answered questions from Reps. Frank and Nadler, stating that he felt local law enforcement officers were protecting the Hensons to the best of their ability and were upholding the law. Sheriff Maurice Hooks and Deputy Sheriff Myron Holifield (who stated in a newspaper article that "It's a known fact that all your violent crime comes from homosexuals") had agreed to appear at the hearing but did not attend due to a funeral. Gerome Wyatt, President of the Jones County Board of Supervisors was also scheduled to attend, but did not. Rickey Cole, chairman of the Jones County (Miss.) Democratic Executive Committee did testify, stating that he believes "a community has a right to self-determination...and) has a right to control commercial and political advocacy." After a lively dialogue between Cole and Rep. Frank, Frank said, "I hope you find a country to live in, because it's not the United States...I think you just confirmed to me that you think people's rights depend on your tolerance."

Two representatives of the U.S. Department of Justice testified at the hearing: William Yeomans, Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division and Ozell Sutton, Southeast Regional Director of the Community Relations Service (CRS). Yeomans testified that "at present, none of the nation's civil rights laws provide explicit protection on the basis of sexual orientation... The Department of Justice is limited to enforcement of the laws as written. Our jurisdiction reaches only so far as Congress chooses to extend it." Yeomans also outlined several of the current codes used to prosecute other civil rights violations not related to sexual orientation. Also testifying on the experts panel were Brian Levin, visiting scholar on bias crimes at Stanford Law School and Loretta Ross, program director at the Center for Democratic Renewal in Atlanta.

Mississippi officials had denounced the intention of Rep. Frank to hold hearings in Mississippi about Camp Sister Spirit. Rep Mike Parker, whose district includes Ovett, said he was "very much opposed" to the hearing because it would be "inflammatory." Gov. Kirk Fordice finally went on record about the situation last month when he told a local television station that "we seem to have a whole lot more (federal intervention) than we need here lately... Ovett, Mississippi is a good example. That is absolutely no case for anything that the laws of the United States have anything to do with. It's a state matter. Nobody's been hurt. And I think it's been handled very well by Mississippians, if the U.S. Justice Department would just butt out."

"Contrary to the statements of Rep. Mike Parker (D-Miss.) and Gov. Kirk Fordice, Mississippi public officials and law enforcement officers are not responsibly handling the volatile situation in Ovett," said Robin Kane, NGLTF Public Information Manager. "Local and state officials have fueled the flames of bigotry in Ovett. The federal government has the responsibility to help extinguish that fire. Someone must represent and protect the Hensons."

"Given the testimony of representatives of both Camp Sister Spirit and Mississippi for Family Values, mediation is urgently needed in this community," Kane added. "We hope James Hendry will agree to mediation, which he has blocked so far, and begin to heal the wounds he helped create."

"The situation in Ovett has demonstrated how the lack of federal protection based on sexual orientation actually hinders the federal government from intervening on behalf of its own citizens. Without specific inclusion in legislation, gay lesbian and bisexual people across the country lack basic civil rights that are taken for granted by most citizens. NGLTF wants to ensure that case-by-case advocacy is not necessary for the federal government to protect it's gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens," Kane said in a written statement to the subcommittee.



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Dear Even In Mississippi,

The summer here at the camp has seen a beautiful parade of brothers and sisters from around the world! East & West Germany, Switzerland, England, Canada, Holland, Ireland India, and all over the U.S. While there has never been many of us on the land at any one time, the volunteers keep a steady pace.

We expect a group in from Atlanta, August 4, 5,6,7 (We will have an "open house - pot lunch" August 7). There will also be a group in from Mobile, August 12, 13, 14. Communities around the country have sent volunteers to help build the camp. We are currently finishing up the smaller center and we are working on the men's camping area & lunch space. A LOT of fencing is up.

Our food bank is operating here at the camp - we have 5 families coming once a month, they are all from Jones county.

We are still defending ourselves on an up coming "nuisance" suit. Our neighbors (7) claim there is "increased traffic," that we will cause them to "have depressing feelings" and that we will "lower their resistance." We are not sure of a trial date. Our attorney David R. Daniels and volunteer law students as well as, Alison Gude (an attorney from Santa Rosa, CA) have worked very hard on getting everything together for this case. Our neighbors say they "do not care that we are Lesbians," they, "don't even mind if we have our friends over"!! They do not want an education & cultural retreat center here.

On July 6th we testified before a congressional hearing panel made up of Barney Frank (D-MA) and Jerry Nadler (D-NY). Two men who also serve on the house Sub Committee on Civil and Constitutional Rights. Some of the testimony given by the opposition - hate group, "Mississippi for Family Values" was pretty scary in a democracy! They testified they objected to our "political advocacy." Barney Frank suggested they were in the wrong country! The head of the Democratic party of Jones County testified, making reference to Emit Till and the lynching mob of him.

This man made me sorry to be a Democrat! Of course, Gene Taylor has been chipping away at that for years. Looks like time for the "Freedom Democratic Party" to stand back up and say "No More."

We hope those of you on the coast who have been wanting to come up, will come on up! We are only 1 1/2 hrs. away. You don't even have to come through Hattiesburg if you come Hwy. 29 N through Wiggins. It is wonderful to see all the new faces from around the country & world but it would but it would be great to see old friends from the coast.

Please call ahead , (601) 344-1411, so we can tell you what to bring if you are staying the night (or week) and so we can unlock the gate. The camp sits 1,500 feet from the road so once you are through the gate it is "safe space" for us all..

See you soon!

Brenda & Wanda Henson

Note: All meetings and events at the G.L. Friendly Community Services Center are always open to everyone, but member enjoy certain benefits.

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G.L. Friendly is a non-profit organization which works to prevent discrimination through education and to maintain a hate-free environment for all members of the community regardless of sex, race, creed, national origin, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, or ability.

Our various programs and groups (i.e. 24 hr crisis line, library, food bank, training program for law officials and the work place) aim to eliminate homophobia and heterosexism in South Mississippi.

Additionally, G.L. Friendly serves as a resource for factual and accurate information regarding the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities.

Without your continued financial support we cannot continue the work that we do here on the Coast of Mississippi.

Time is Now

Senator Edward Kennedy

At all critical stages in history of a free people, forces of oppression must be confronted in order for the frontiers of justice to be extended. For America, the time has come again. For gay men and lesbians, the time is now.

Just recently, a million Americans gathered to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Stonewall, the first milestone in this long journey on freedom's road. The civil rights movement is on the march again, moving closer to the American ideal of liberty and justice for all.

We have refused to be intimidated by hate. Once again, it is time to challenge our country to live up to its founding ideals.

A Great deal of progress has been made in the past quarter century. Although many miles have been traveled, there are many promises yet to keep. They are promises to a cook in Georgia fired for being a lesbian; to a postal worker in Michigan beaten unconscious by co-workers for being gay; and to a truck driver in New Hampshire, a stock broker in Maryland, a social worker in Mississippi, and countless other Americans -- all fired because of prejudice despite their productivity and performance. Such flagrant discrimination is wrong, and it is time to fight back.

That is why, along with thirty of my Senate colleagues and 115 House members, I have sponsored the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994. Our bipartisan legislation will extend existing federal protections against job discrimination to gay men and lesbians, and give relief to those living in fear of losing their livelihoods. Our bill will send a strong message to employers and all Americans that homophobia will not be tolerated as employment policy anywhere in the nation.

This is not about granting special rights -- it is about righting senseless wrongs. Our case is strong -- our cause is just -- and we intend to prevail.

Polls show that the vast majority of Americans agree with us that lesbians and gay men should not have to face discrimination in the workplace. Many Fortune 500 corporations have already included sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies. Eight states and more than 100 municipalities have acted to ban discrimination against gay men and lesbians.

By joining Congressmen Barney Frank and Gerry Studds and myself at the press conference introducing this legislation, Coretta Scott King affirmed this action as the next chapter in America's civil rights history. She said: "I support the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994 because I believe that freedom and justice cannot be parceled out in pieces to suit political convenience. As my husband, Martin Luther King, Jr. said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere'."

But the fact remains that in 42 states, qualified lesbians and gay men with excellent records can be fired -- with no warning -- just for being gay. It happens every day, and it is up to us to stop it.

Let's be clear -- the radical right will leave no stone unturned to block the enactment of this essential legislation. Our own commitment must be even stronger. To ensure success, we need your active support and assistance.

Being right is good, but it is not enough. We need to mount a major effort in order to prevail. We must inspire the complacent and convert the skeptical. To make this bill a reality, we need you to take the following action steps now:

1. If you have been discriminated against in employment or know someone who has -- make sure we know the facts [Committee on Labor and Human Resources, SD 428, DC 20510]. Send us all the information you think will be useful in making our point. Job discrimination against gay men and lesbians is not myth -- it's a reality that is shattering lives and denying opportunities daily.
2. Write and call your Senators and Representatives at (202) 224-3121 and tell them to co-sponsor the Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994 (S.2238 and HR 4636). Make sure they know this is important -- not just to the gay community -- but to all their constituents who believe in the fundamental principles of a democratic society.
3. Work closely with others in the civil rights community in your area -- people of color, disability, religious, and labor organizations -- and ask for their support and suggestions. They are veterans in the civil rights movement and can be helpful with coalition-building and strategy. As Harvey Milk said: "None of us are free until all of us are free." We need to join together, not let others divide us.

Contact your friends, your neighbors, your co-workers, your employers, and your family members and make sure they too make their voices heard for freedom and justice. The phone banks of the radical right will be working overtime -- and yours must be too. There is likely to be a massive misinformation campaign about what our bill does. Form truth squads and make sure your delegation in Congress has the facts to separate truth from malicious fiction.

If we have the courage of our principles, if we appeal to the best in ourselves and our country, we shall overcome, just as others have before.

Together, we can overcome -- in the halls of congress and communities across America, in Oregon and Colorado -- and from Washington State to Washington, D.C.

For those imprisoned by prejudice and those liberated by pride, let this be a call to action.
Gay and lesbian Americans -- the time has come -- and together we march toward a new dawn.

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